

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed changes are consistent with the settings established by the Forest plan for the 8.22 management area. The site remains skiing in treed areas down ski trails. Safety on War Path will be improved. Widening of and grading war path will increase the ease of use for beginners. The new Yurt and toilet around the bottom of the Sundance lift will help users that need access to warming or restroom facilities. The ski patrol hut placement at the top of the chute lift will reduce response time for ski patrol response on the West side of the ski resort. Access in snow making runs the setting will remain the same with the exception of a longer and more consistent snow extending the season of ski use. Building a bridge from the secondary parking lot may change the ease of access for the public and maintenance to circulate between lots and to and plow the secondary parking lot. The proposed actions will not change social the setting. Effects on safety and access will be improved for ski area users.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

See the project purpose and need and proposed action for proposal specifics.



View of proposed trail to secondary parking lot

Existing Recreation setting – Snowy Range is located west of the town of Laramie, Wyoming in the snowy mountain range. It is an existing ski area that has been there since>>>>>>>>>. There is a thick tree cover of the area and while there are views to the surrounding mountains the long view is limited

giving the since of being far out in the forest. The recreational use in the area is heavy and dense. The uses is mostly winters. The surrounding area gets summer use and camping but the ski area closes and there are not many trails that traverse the ski resort.

FOREST PLAN DIRECTION & COMPLIANCE

The forest plan show this area as zoned for Ski-Based Resorts management area 8.22. the proposed projects are all within the 8.22 area and the SUP of the ski area.

Management Area	Geographic area
8.22 Ski-Based Resorts	-

Management Emphasis:

Ensure that all management activities are consistent with the adopted Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) class shown on the ROS decision map” (forest plan Part 4 Managing for recreational users).

Recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS)

ROS	Forest Plan goals
Rural	Forest Plan Section 4 133. (GO) Ensure that all management activities are consistent with the adopted Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) class as shown on ROS decision map enclosed with this document.

PROPOSED ACTION EFFECTS

Definition: The proposed action is to widen the war path trail and increase snow making in the ski area.

Direct Effects:

The widening and grading of war path will increase the ease of use for beginners. It will allow for beginners to make wider turns to control their decent speed on the trail. The grading will reduce the out slope of the trail. Changing the grade has potential to reduce the chances for sliding off the trail. Access in snow making runs the setting will remain the same with the exception of a longer and more consistent snow extending the season of ski use. The ski patrol hut placement at the top of the chute lift will potentially reduce response time for ski patrol response on the West side of the ski resort. The warming Yurt and warming hut at the base of Sundance will reduce trips back to the lodge for bathroom breaks and give a few guests the option to have a place to warm up on that side of the resort.

The bridge from the secondary lot across the creek to the primary lot and lodge is currently the path that people take when using that lot. In the winter it is covered with snow and having a bridge there will not change the movement of people. It may make it easier to maintain the trail between lots. The only

change may be that snow plows can get across to the secondary parking lot more easily. The proposed actions will not change recreational the setting.

Indirect Effects:

The ease of skiing warpath has a possibility of having more people take that trail. The lines may be longer at the Sundance lift. But this is not a given that there will be more people and it would be difficult to quantify. The worst case scenario would be that the lines got a little longer. The greater usage would likely be existing guests. These changes may not in and of themselves bring more guests.

Cumulative Effects:

A few other projects have recently and will be happening at snowy range. The upgrading of a magic carpet and the upgrade of the Chute lift will have effects on the site infrastructure. Upgrades can improve safety and access. But combined with the other proposed projects do not collectively change the recreational setting of the site.

CONCLUSION:

The proposed action will not change the recreational setting. All the projects proposed here are in keeping with planed management of the site.

<i>Design Criteria</i>	<i>Actions to meet recreation management standards</i>
NA	NA